

highly spirited and courageous, Mexican army;

Whereas the courageous spirit that Mexican General Ignacio Zaragoza and his men displayed during that historic battle can never be forgotten;

Whereas, in a larger sense, Cinco de Mayo symbolizes the right of a free people to self-determination, just as Benito Juarez, the president of Mexico during the Battle of Puebla, once said, “El respeto al derecho ajeno es la paz”, meaning “respect for the rights of others is peace”;

Whereas the sacrifice of Mexican fighters was instrumental in keeping Mexico from falling under European domination while, in the United States, the Union Army battled Confederate forces in the Civil War;

Whereas Cinco de Mayo serves as a reminder that the foundation of the United States was built by people from many countries and diverse cultures who were willing to fight and die for freedom;

Whereas Cinco de Mayo also serves as a reminder of the close ties between the people of Mexico and the people of the United States;

Whereas Cinco de Mayo encourages the celebration of a legacy of strong leaders and a sense of vibrancy in communities; and

Whereas Cinco de Mayo serves as a reminder to provide more opportunity for future generations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the historic struggle of the people of Mexico for independence and freedom, which Cinco de Mayo commemorates; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe Cinco de Mayo with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 222—

OFFICIAL TITLE NOT AVAILABLE

Mr. SCHUMER submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 222

Whereas the Senate is committed to the awareness, prevention, and deterrence of sexual violence affecting individuals in the United States;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (referred to in this preamble as the “CDC”), 1 in 4 women and 1 in 10 men experience sexual or physical violence and stalking by an intimate partner;

Whereas, according to the 2019 Child Maltreatment Report of the Department of Health and Human Services, child protection service agencies throughout the United States substantiated, or found strong evidence to indicate that, 60,927 children under 18 years of age were victims of sexual abuse that year;

Whereas children and young adults are at significant risk of experiencing sexual assault, as up to 69 percent of sexual assault victims are under 34 years of age;

Whereas sexual violence is a burden for many individuals who serve in the Armed Forces, and the Department of Defense estimates that approximately 20,500 members of the Armed Forces, including approximately 13,000 women and 7,500 men, experienced some form of contact or penetrative sexual assault during 2018;

Whereas, due to the unprecedented challenges presented by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, including mandatory stay-at-home orders, the needs of sexual assault victims have become even more complex and challenging;

Whereas, according to a March 2020 survey by the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence,

62 percent of rape crisis centers have a waiting list for counseling services, 35 percent lack a therapist on staff, and 40 percent of programs have an increased demand for services since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas the American Journal of Emergency Medicine reported a 10 to 30 percent increase in reports of family violence since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas sexual assault does not discriminate on any basis and can affect any individual in the United States;

Whereas sexual violence may take many forms, including acquaintance, stranger, spousal, and gang rape, incest, child sexual abuse, elder sexual abuse, sexual abuse and exploitation of disabled persons and members of the LGBTQ community, commercial sex trafficking, sexual harassment, and stalking;

Whereas studies have suggested that the rate at which American Indians and Alaska Natives experience sexual violence is significantly higher than for other populations in the United States;

Whereas, according to a 2010 CDC survey, approximately 1 in 8 lesbian women (13 percent or 214,000), nearly half of all bisexual women (46 percent or 1,500,000), and 1 in 6 heterosexual women (17 percent or 19,000,000) have been raped in their lifetime;

Whereas, according to the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, in addition to the immediate physical and emotional costs, sexual assault has numerous adverse consequences, which can include post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, major depression, homelessness, eating disorders, and suicide;

Whereas, according to the National Crime Victimization Survey, an average of only 34 percent of rapes or sexual assaults in the United States were reported to law enforcement agencies;

Whereas many sexual assaults are not reported to law enforcement agencies, and many States have restrictive criminal statutes of limitations, which enable many perpetrators to evade punishment for their crimes;

Whereas advances in deoxyribonucleic acid (commonly known as “DNA”) technology have enabled law enforcement agencies to identify and prosecute the perpetrators in tens of thousands of previously unsolved sexual assault cases;

Whereas incarceration of sexual assault perpetrators can prevent perpetrators from committing additional crimes;

Whereas national, State, territorial, and Tribal coalitions, community-based rape crisis centers, and other organizations across the United States are committed to—

(1) eliminating sexual violence through prevention and education; and

(2) increasing public awareness of sexual violence and the prevalence of sexual violence;

Whereas important partnerships have been formed among criminal and juvenile justice agencies, health professionals, public health workers, educators, first responders, and victim service providers;

Whereas thousands of volunteers and staff at rape crisis centers, State coalitions against sexual assault, and nonprofit organizations across the United States play an important role in making crisis hotlines and other services available to survivors of sexual assault;

Whereas free, confidential help is available to all victims and survivors of sexual assault through—

(1) the victim service programs of the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (commonly known and referred to in this

preamble as “RAINN”), including the National Sexual Assault Hotline—

(A) by telephone at 800-656-HOPE; and

(B) online at <https://hotline.rainn.org>; and

(2) more than 1,500 sexual assault service providers across the United States;

Whereas the victim service programs of RAINN, including the National Sexual Assault Hotline, helped a total of 60,437 victims receive help in May and June of 2020, up 18 percent from the same time period in 2019;

Whereas the Department of Defense provides the Safe Helpline, Safe HelpRoom, and Safe Helpline mobile application, each of which provide support and help to members of the Department of Defense community—

(1) by telephone at 877-995-5247; and

(2) online at <https://SafeHelpline.org>;

Whereas individual and collective efforts reflect the dream of the people of the United States—

(1) for individuals and organizations to actively work to prevent all forms of sexual violence; and

(2) for no victim of sexual assault to be unserved or feel that there is no path to justice; and

Whereas April 2021 is recognized as “National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) it is the sense of the Senate that—

(A) National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month provides a special opportunity to—

(i) educate the people of the United States about sexual violence; and

(ii) encourage—

(I) the prevention of sexual assault;

(II) improvement in the treatment of survivors of sexual assault; and

(III) the prosecution of perpetrators of sexual assault;

(B) it is appropriate to properly acknowledge survivors of sexual assault and to commend the volunteers and professionals who assist those survivors in their efforts to heal;

(C) national and community organizations and private sector supporters should be recognized and applauded for their work in—

(i) promoting awareness about sexual assault;

(ii) providing information and treatment to survivors of sexual assault; and

(iii) increasing the number of successful prosecutions of perpetrators of sexual assault; and

(D) public safety, law enforcement, and health professionals should be recognized and applauded for their hard work and innovative strategies to ensure perpetrators of sexual assault are held accountable; and

(2) the Senate supports the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

SENATE RESOLUTION 223—CONGRATULATING THE CITY OF COLUMBIA HEIGHTS, MINNESOTA, ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Ms. SMITH (for herself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 223

Whereas the city of Columbia Heights is a first-ring suburb of Minneapolis situated in the southern part of Anoka County;

Whereas Columbia Heights was established as a village in 1898 and incorporated as a city in 1921;

Whereas Columbia Heights is now home to a diverse population, which brings together cultures from all across the world;

Whereas Columbia Heights was designated in 2006 by community stakeholders and city officials as the “City of Peace”;

Whereas Columbia Heights is a city that embraces ethnic and cultural differences so that all its citizens may live in peace;

Whereas Columbia Heights was named an All-America City recipient in 2016;

Whereas Columbia Heights prides itself in being a place where families can thrive;

Whereas Columbia Heights has a small-town feel while still striving towards the goals of a big city; and

Whereas, on July 21, 2021, the Columbia Heights will celebrate 100 years of incorporation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate congratulates Columbia Heights, Minnesota on its 100th anniversary.

SENATE RESOLUTION 224—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE UNITED STATES MUST SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE MILLIONS OF JOBS, BECOME A NET EXPORTER OF CLEAN ENERGY, AND SECURE A BETTER, MORE EQUITABLE FUTURE BY ACCELERATING THE ELECTRIFICATION OF HOUSEHOLDS, BUILDINGS, AND BUSINESSES IN THE UNITED STATES, MODERNIZING THE UNITED STATES ELECTRICITY GRID, AND CONTINUING ON THE PATH TOWARDS DECARBONIZING ELECTRICITY GENERATION IN THE UNITED STATES BY 2035

Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. KING) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

S. RES. 224

Whereas the United States enjoys an abundance of clean energy resources, world-class research facilities, cutting-edge industrial capabilities, and an unrivaled culture of entrepreneurship and technological innovation;

Whereas, as of the date of adoption of this resolution, technology exists to power the majority of energy systems in the United States with zero-emission electricity;

Whereas achieving widespread electrification—

(1) will reduce the overall energy needs of the United States economy by up to 50 percent; and

(2) can substantially decrease overall consumer energy costs while maintaining the same or better lifestyles for individuals and families in the United States;

Whereas national and subnational economies around the world, including in the United States, are engaged in a fundamental transition away from energy systems based on fossil fuels to zero-emission energy systems;

Whereas the United States has the opportunity to become a clean energy superpower, and in the process has the opportunity—

(1) to become a net exporter of bulk zero-emission electricity and of products made with zero-emission electricity;

(2) to capture new and expanding power and technology markets;

(3) to benefit from the ongoing global transition away from fossil fuel energy towards widespread electrification using zero-emission electricity; and

(4) to become an international leader in the production and adoption of zero-emission vehicles;

Whereas climate change caused by human activities, especially by greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel combustion, represents a serious, present, and growing threat—

(1) to human health, security, and economic well-being; and

(2) to the environment;

Whereas low-income communities and communities of color are disproportionately impacted by the harmful effects of climate change and air pollution, including being at a higher risk of experiencing—

(1) severe floods, droughts, and wildfires;

(2) economic dislocation; and

(3) significant health problems, including pneumonia, asthma, bronchitis, heart attacks, strokes, and lung cancer;

Whereas transitioning the energy systems of the United States to zero-emission electricity would—

(1) drastically reduce net greenhouse gas emissions in the United States;

(2) improve air and water quality throughout the United States; and

(3) improve numerous health conditions associated with the burning of fossil fuels for millions of individuals in the United States;

Whereas the work required to electrify the economy of the United States would produce millions of high-paying, sustainable jobs that would—

(1) be created throughout the United States, including in urban, rural, suburban, and Tribal communities; and

(2) require directly transferable skills from individuals who, as of the date of adoption of this resolution, hold jobs in—

(A) the fossil fuel industry;

(B) the construction and building industry;

(C) the electricity industry, including residential and commercial electricians; and

(D) the automotive industry;

Whereas the average household in the United States spends, as of the date of adoption of this resolution, approximately \$4,500 per year on energy, including \$2,000 per year on vehicle fuel;

Whereas, with supportive policy, households in the United States can save up to half of their annual energy costs by electrifying their household energy systems, including through—

(1) the installation of—

(A) rooftop or distributed photovoltaic solar and home battery systems;

(B) electric heat pumps and electric heat pump water heaters; and

(C) electric household appliances; and

(2) the purchase of electric vehicles;

Whereas many low- and moderate-income families in the United States lack access to credit and financing options that would enable those families to install money-saving electrified household energy systems;

Whereas reaping the benefits of electrification could be made more accessible and cost-effective for individuals in the United States, so that the access and costs compare more favorably with other countries, by—

(1) reducing the up-front capital outlays typically required; and

(2) decreasing the cost of local permitting and regulations for rooftop solar and other distributed renewable energy generation in the United States;

Whereas investments in energy efficiency programs can—

(1) reduce the size and cost of electric heating systems;

(2) help increase systemic resiliency to periods of extreme temperature; and

(3) in addition to other investments in infrastructure, help improve the ability of the electric power grid to serve peak electric demand;

Whereas utility-scale wind and solar installations are among the lowest-cost sources of electricity available in the United States;

Whereas additional interregional high-voltage direct-current electricity transmission capacity—

(1) is critical to the development of new clean energy generation; and

(2) can help ensure reliable and consistent electricity supply; and

Whereas supporting rapid electrification and innovation in all sectors of the United States economy while transitioning to zero-emission electricity production using proven generation technologies is one of the fastest, most efficient ways to reduce United States greenhouse gas emissions, reduce the average energy bills of people of the United States, and create millions of good-paying jobs to put individuals in the United States back to work in response to the COVID-19 pandemic: Now, therefore be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the United States must seize the opportunity to create millions of jobs, become a net exporter of clean energy, and secure a better, more equitable future by accelerating the electrification of households, buildings, and businesses in the United States, modernizing the United States electricity grid, and continuing on the path towards decarbonizing electricity generation in the United States by 2035;

(2) the goals described in paragraph (1) are consistent with, and should be achieved through, efforts that prioritize the objectives of—

(A) creating millions of good-paying jobs, with collective bargaining agreements, and advancing a thriving, equitable economy with an expanded middle class;

(B) maintaining the global leadership of the United States in innovation;

(C) ensuring that not less than 40 percent of the benefits of Federal investments in electrification efforts flow to historically marginalized communities and individuals disproportionately affected by the health and environmental impacts of fossil fuels;

(D) rehiring through place-based policies, retraining, and certifying, for electrification and clean energy jobs, individuals that, as of the date of adoption of this resolution, hold jobs in the fossil fuel industry (referred to in this resolution as “energy veterans”);

(E) advancing strong labor and safety standards throughout the supply chain by using certain Federal provisions, including—

(i) chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code (commonly known as the “Buy American Act”); and

(ii) subchapter IV of chapter 31 of part A of subtitle II of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the “Davis-Bacon Act”);

(F) decreasing the harmful health and environmental impacts of climate change, which fall disproportionately on low-income people and communities of color in the United States;

(G) ensuring access to low-cost, reliable electricity for individuals, families, and businesses, while recognizing and addressing the infrastructural challenges in rural and Tribal communities;

(H) modernizing the electric power grid of the United States and its operations to increase the security, resilience, reliability, fairness, and flexibility of the electric power grid;